



Vs 15; **put on** the readiness given by the gospel of peace.

A Christian who is in turmoil in his/her relationships with God and others is not ready for spiritual battle.

Colossians 3:13-15; *let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts*

Vs 16; **take up** the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one;

When you hold up the shield of faith, there is no dart of Satan that can harm your soul.

We **extinguish** those darts with the truth of God's word.

The shield is actually created when the truth you receive from the word is integrated into your life and informs your world view and shapes your value system.

Vs 17; **take** the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

The absolute protection of your thoughts and your mind, is the fact of your salvation.

Vs 18; **praying at all times** in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication.

### **Are you participating in God's protection?**

1. **Accept** the righteousness of Christ as your own.
2. **Believe** the truth about God's nature and His love for you.
3. **Accept** the gift of peace with God and live peacefully with others.
4. **Study** the Word and build a strong shield of faith by the integrating the truth of that Word into every part of life.
5. **Accept** your salvation, God's restoration of wholeness to you, that is possible by Christ alone.
6. **Pray!**

### **Questions for Reflection:**

- 1) Read Romans 5:8 - How is this truth a defense against the attacks of the enemy?
- 2) Read Ephesians 6:10-18 - What directives do you see that call for our active participation in the spiritual battle?
- 3) Why is it necessary that we take up the WHOLE armor of God and not just a part?
- 4) How are truth and righteousness protection for us in the spiritual battle?
- 5) Pastor Daniel shared that "A sin acknowledged is a sin half-defeated." Why is this the case?
- 6) How is our faith built by processing the Word of God and integrating it into our lives? Why is it not enough to just memorize the Word?
- 7) Are you participating in the protection available to you in the spiritual battle? Which of the 6 action steps do you need to focus in on? How will you do this?

**Pray and ask God for His protection in the spiritual battle. Be sure to take some time to listen to the Holy Spirit and respond to His leading.**

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